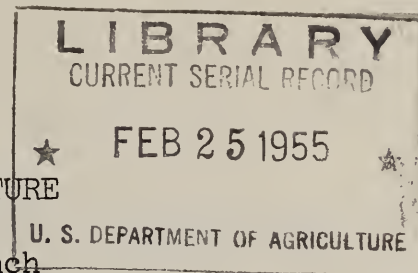


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Agricultural Research Service  
Animal Disease Eradication Branch  
Washington 25, D. C.

February 7, 1955

ADE BRANCH MEMORANDUM NO. 506.3

To: ADE Field Activities Stations  
From: A. F. Ranney, Chief, Tuberculosis Eradication Section  
Subject: Tuberculosis Eradication Situation

I PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to call to your attention an alarming situation with which we are confronted in connection with the tuberculosis eradication project and to suggest some possible corrective measures.

II GENERAL

In reviewing the amount of tuberculosis testing performed for the first six months of this year, and the status of accredited counties throughout the country, we are faced with the fact that our volume of work for the first six months of this fiscal year is no greater than for the first five months of the previous year. In addition, there are many counties in several States which are considerably overdue for reaccreditation.

III OVER-ALL ACTIVITY

We recognize the situation with which you are faced in attempting to give proper attention to the various projects under your supervision. The vesicular exanthema eradication project has required considerable attention in many States and still does in some. The present expansion of the brucellosis eradication project is also requiring a great deal of time and attention at each station, and we realize that other disease problems of lesser magnitude but of equal importance must also be taken care of. The tuberculosis eradication project, however, must be viewed as a continuing program to protect a sizeable investment which has been made over a long period of years, and an effort toward further reduction of the relatively small but highly significant amount of infection still menacing the livestock industry.

IV SUGGESTED CORRECTIVE ACTION

A. Confer with cooperating State officials in the matter of bringing all counties up to full accreditation at an early date. Where feasible, encourage States to increase their contributions of personnel, money, and material to the tuberculosis eradication project.

B. Give consideration to the greater use of practicing veterinarians on a fee basis for conducting tuberculosis testing. In many States arrangements have been made for practitioners to conduct combination brucellosis and tuberculosis tests during one visit with a resultant saving to both projects. This year federal expenditures for tuberculosis testing in this manner will be limited to funds currently earmarked for tuberculosis.

C. District supervisors should be advised of the situation with regard to tuberculosis testing, and they should be instructed to make every effort to keep current the accreditation of counties under their supervision.

V GENERAL

After reviewing the tuberculosis situation in your State, we will be glad to give any assistance possible on specific problems you may wish to call to our attention.

*A. F. Rimmer*